

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for stimulating remodeling of blemished skin in a mammal,
2 comprising administering to the blemished skin of said mammal a composition that
3 comprises a ionic metal-peptide complex in an amount effective to remodel the skin and
4 diminish or remove the skin blemish.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the skin blemish is a scar.

1 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the scar is selected from
2 the group consisting of a surgical scar, a wound scar, an acne scar, a keloid scar, a burn scar,
3 and a Sjogren's syndrome scar.

1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the skin blemish is selected
2 from the group consisting of skin tags, calluses, benign skin moles, stretch marks, facial
3 keratosis, thickened sunspots of the skin, and vitiligo spots.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic metal is selected from the
2 group consisting of copper(II), tin(II), tin(IV), and zinc(II), and therapeutically acceptable
3 salts and complexes thereof.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic metal is copper(II).

1 7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic
2 metal-peptide complex is an enzymatic hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat
3 products, silk protein, or soybean protein.

1 8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic
2 metal-peptide complex is an acid hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products, silk
3 protein, or soybean protein.

1 10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic
2 metal-peptide complex is a bacterial hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products,
3 silk protein, or soybean protein.

1 11. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic
2 metal-peptide complex is a chemically-synthesized copper binding peptide.

1 12. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic
2 metal-peptide complex is a chemically-synthesized peptide and the ionic metal is copper(II),
3 tin(II), tin(IV), or zinc(II).

1 13. The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition is
2 administered topically or by injection into the skin.

1 14. The method according to claim 1, wherein the ionic metal-peptide
2 complex is combined with a carrier to form a cream or lotion.

1 15. The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the
2 ionic metal-peptide complex in the composition is 1% to 25%.

1 16. A method for inhibiting the development of a scar following a surgical
2 incision in the skin of a mammal, comprising administering to the skin of said mammal at
3 the site of said incision a pharmaceutical composition that comprises a ionic metal-peptide
4 complex in an amount effective to remodel the skin and inhibit development of a scar at said
5 site.